

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 00192 062015Z  
ACTION SCSE-00

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 SCA-01 DEAE-00 DHA-02 L-03 H-02

SY-05 PPTE-00 /024 W

-----062018Z 095477 /46

P 061911Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9544

UNCLAS MEXICO 0192

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CDES, MX

SUBJECT: MURDER VICTIMS IN STATE OF OAXACA

REF: STATE 000896; MEXICO 16286

1. EMBASSY SEES NO TREND OR PARTICULAR SCHEME IN ATTACKS ON AMERICAN TOURISTS IN SOUTH COAST AREA OF OAXACA. ALTHOUGH THERE HAVE BEEN TWO MURDERS OF AMCITS DURING DECEMBER 1976 IN THIS AREA THE LAST REPORTED MURDER OF AN AMCIT IN THE STATE OF OAXACA OCCURRED 11/73 (JAMES HOWARD DALE). THE TWO MURDERS APPEAR TO BE AN UNFORTUNATE COINCIDENCE.

2. JUAN MANUEL CRUZ ACEVEDO, STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL OF OAXACA, ADVISED THE EMBASSY ON JANUARY 5 OF THE ARREST OF FOUR SUSPECTS IN CALISS CASE THAT DAY. CRUZ SAID "THE FOUR WERE FOUND WITH WEAPONS AND HAVE NOT DENIED INVOLVEMENT IN CASE." MR. CALISS HAD APPARENTLY BEEN SLEEPING ON THE BEACH NEAR THE TOWN OF SALINA CRUZ, OAXACA AND WAS SLAIN IN A ROBBERY ATTEMPT. ONLY \$20 IN TRAVELERS CHECKS WERE FOUND WITH BODY. FULL POLICE REPORTS ARE TO BE SENT TO THE EMBASSY ASAP. THE ATTORNEY GENERAL EXPRESSED HIS DESIRE TO COOPERATE WITH EMBASSY, HIS PERSONAL INTEREST IN THE MURDERS, AND HIS DESIRE TO PROTECT AMCIT TOURISTS. HIS REMARKS REGARDING GRAWFORD CASE (THE OTHER DECEMBER MURDER) TO BE FORWARDED TO DEPT. SEPTEL.

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3. OAXACA HAS AN ESTIMATED PAOPULATION (1975) OF 2.3 MILLION. 73 O/O LIVE IN VILLAGES OF LESS THAN 500 PEOPLE. THE ILLITERACY RATE IS 42 O/O. OAXACA ONE OF POOREST STATES AND ONE OF THE LEAST INTEGRATED INTO MAINSTREAM MEXICAN SOCIETY. BECAUSE OF MOUNTAINOUS TERRAIN AND UNDERDEVELOPMENT THERE ARE COMMUNICATION PROBLEMS

WHICH COMPLICATE THE JOB OF THE POLICE. GOM OFFICIALS  
ESTIMATE THAT 223,000 TOURISTS  
VISITED OAXACA IN 1975. THE AREA OF THE  
MURDERS, BOTH NEAR THE PAN AM HWY IN THE Isthmus OF  
TEHUANTEPEC, IS ONE OF THE MORE POPULAR TOURIST AREAS  
OF THE STATE.

4. THE STATE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE ADMITS TO AN  
INCREASE OF 4.8 O/O IN CRIME IN SOUTH COAST AREA OF OAXACA  
IN 1976. THE EMBASSY HAS RECEIVED REPORTS OF AN  
INCREASE IN POLITICAL UNREST IN OAXACA AS WELL AS RE-  
PORTS OF INCREASED GOM COUNTER ACTION. INSOFAR AS THE  
EMBASSY IS AWARE, TOURISTS HAVE NOT BEEN AFFECTED.

5. IT IS THE OPINION OF THE EMBASSY THAT AS OF NOW A  
TRAVEL ADVISORY IS NOT WARRANTED FOR THE STATE OF  
OAXACA. THE EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO MONITOR THE  
SITUATION AND ADVISE DEPT. OF FINDINGS.

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## Message Attributes

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